May 11, 2016 IN THIS ISSUE

National Academies Hosts 3rd Meeting to Assess MRIP

The Marine Recreational Information Program, or MRIP, is the way NOAA Fisheries is counting and reporting marine recreational catch and effort. It is a customer-driven initiative that not only produces better estimates, but does so through a process grounded in the principles of transparency, accountability and engagement.

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National Academies of Sciences to Meet in New Orleans for MRIP Review

As part of its <u>ongoing expert review</u> of NOAA's Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP), the National Academies of Sciences' Ocean Studies Board will host a third regional meeting at the Hyatt Regency, 601 Loyola Avenue in New Orleans, Louisiana, from May 26-28, with open sessions on May 26 and 27. This review is designed to provide an objective analysis of how well NOAA Fisheries has incorporated and acted on the recommendations in the <u>Academies' 2006 report</u>.

The public is invited to attend open sessions and provide comments. There will be an opportunity to offer oral comments during a 30-minute period on Friday, May 27.

This review, which started in September, 2015, will assess MRIP's current approach to developing and implementing statistically sound recreational fisheries data collection programs that meet the needs of stock assessment scientists, fishery managers, and stakeholders. Based on this assessment, the committee may recommend new directions or changes that could better address emerging needs for more timely and accurate monitoring of marine recreational fishing catch and effort.

The Academies' Ocean Studies Board will host a fourth regional meeting tentatively planned for Irvine, California, from July 11-13. For more details on the scope of the review, attending the public meetings, and how to provide input (either on site or via email), please visit the <u>project website</u> or contact Stacee Karras, associate program officer with the Academies' Ocean Studies Board, at <u>ckarras@nas.edu</u>.

Ask MRIP

Do you have questions about MRIP or our surveys? Ask us and we'll answer your question in an upcoming newsletter. If you've got a question about MRIP that you'd like answered, please e-mail Leah Sharpe at Leah.Sharpe@noaa.gov.

To learn more about improvements MRIP is making, visit our website at www.countmyfish.noaa.gov.